

CLAIMS

1. Method, comprising the steps of:  
determining in a first radio network controller that an overload condition exists,  
signaling a second radio network controller that said overload condition exists and  
a proposed action to alleviate the overload condition.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said proposed action is to restrict data flow.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an  
interfrequency handover.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an intersystem  
handover.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the proposed action is to release a radio bearer.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
receiving the signaling from the first controller in the second controller, and  
carrying out the proposed action to alleviate the overload condition.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein said proposed action is to restrict data flow.
8. The method of claim 6, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an  
interfrequency handover.
9. The method of claim 6, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an intersystem  
handover.
10. The method of claim 6, wherein the proposed action is to release a radio bearer.

11. Apparatus, comprising:
  - means for determining in a first radio network controller that an overload condition exists;
  - means for signaling a second radio network controller that said overload condition exists and a proposed action to alleviate the overload condition.
12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said proposed action is to restrict data flow.
13. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an interfrequency handover.
14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an intersystem handover.
15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the proposed action is to release a radio bearer.
16. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:
  - means for receiving in the second controller the signaling from the first controller; and
  - means for carrying out the proposed action in the second controller to alleviate the overload condition.
17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said proposed action is to restrict data flow.
18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an interfrequency handover.
19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the proposed action is to carry out an intersystem handover.

20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the proposed action is to release a radio bearer.